

County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods, and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Dear Property Owner/Manager,

Colonel **Edwin Roessler** Chief of Police

Lt. Colonel Ted Arnn Deputy Chief of Police for Investigations/ **Operations Support**

Lt. Colonel Erin Schaible Deputy Chief of Police for Patrol

Lt. Colonel **Thomas Ryan** Deputy Chief of Police for Administration

Captain **Shawn Martin** Commander, Mount Vernon District Station

Lieutenant **Brian Holland** Assistant Commander, Mount Vernon District Station

To encourage proactive patrolling by our officers and to provide the highest level of crime prevention and deterrence to your property, we would like to ensure that there is an understanding, as well as, a working relationship between property owner/management and the Police Department. The trespassing laws as defined in the Code of Virginia - section 18.2-119 and the County of Fairfax Code - section 5-4-1, states that a person may not go upon or remain upon the lands, buildings or premises of another; after having been forbidden to do so, either orally or in writing; or after having been forbidden to do so by a sign or signs posted on such lands, buildings or premises.

To successfully prosecute a trespassing case, an officer must have the above mentioned evidence and the cooperation of the property representative in court. By asking for enforcement of the trespassing laws on your property, it must be properly posted "No Trespassing." Further, a property representative must be available to support the Police Department by coming to court after arrests have been made. Questions about appropriate signage, wording and placement can be directed to the Mount Vernon Crime Prevention Office at 703-360-8928

The County of Fairfax Code - section 82-1-3, requires the Fairfax County Police Department to obtain permission prior to enforcing motor vehicle laws in certain areas.

Section 82-1-3. Enforcement by County officers;

(b) With the consent of the landowner, any such officer or other uniformed employee of the police department may patrol the landowner's property to enforce State or County motor vehicle registration and licensing requirements.

These areas include streets and roads within subdivisions or condominium projects, where such streets are maintained by the owners or an association of owners and private property. The motor vehicle laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the County of Fairfax include all statutes dealing with motor vehicle registration, licensing, operation and parking. In order to implement these laws on private property, the Police Department must receive prior permission to carryout such enforcement.

Additionally Fairfax County Code 82-5-41 provides for the removal or immobilization of motor vehicles which have outstanding parking violations.

Section 82-5-41. Removal or immobilization of motor vehicles against which there are outstanding parking violations.

- (a) Any motor vehicle parked on a public highway or public ground against which there are three or more unpaid or otherwise unsettled parking violation notices may be removed, by towing or otherwise, to a place within Fairfax County or in an adjacent locality designated by the chief law-enforcement officer for the temporary storage of the vehicle, or the vehicle may be immobilized in a manner which will prevent its removal or operation except by authorized law-enforcement personnel.
- (b) Any motor vehicle parked upon private property, including privately owned streets and roads, may be removed or immobilized in the manner provided in paragraph (a) above, provided the following conditions are met:
 - (1) No motor vehicle may be removed or immobilized from property that is owned or occupied as a single-family residence.
 - (2) The owner of the property or an association of apartment or condominium owners formed pursuant to Va. Code §§ 55-79.1, et seq., or Va. Code §§ 55-79.39, et seq., has given written authorization to enforce this section.
 - (3) The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has provided written assurance to the property owner that he will be held harmless from all loss, damage or expense, including costs and attorney's fees, which may be incurred as a result of the removal or immobilization of the vehicle.

An Enforcement Authorization form has been enclosed for your convenience. Should you wish to grant permission to the Police Department to enforce these trespassing or traffic laws on your property, please copy the form onto your official letterhead and then return it signed and notarized (if possible) to the Mount Vernon District Station.

The Fairfax County Police Department will of course continue to respond to all calls for service without hesitation regardless of your decision concerning this permission. Again, the granting of this permission is a statutory requirement that needs to be met before our officers may cite traffic violations on your property.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please feel free to contact Second Lieutenant Dalton Becker at 703-799-7631 or MPO Greg Kottemann at 703-360-8928.

Sincerely,

Shawn Martin

Captain Shawn Martin
Commander, Mount Vernon District Station